

REMARKS

In the Office Action, independent Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 or §103 as being unpatentable in light of one or more prior art references of record. By way of this response, claims 1-37 are cancelled and new claims 38-70 are added.

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the telephonic interview of June 22, 2004. During this interview, new claim 38 was discussed in light of the prior art of record. Specifically, three key differences between claim 38 and the art of record were discussed.

First, the invention as now claimed includes three distinct phases of operation. The first phase is an “authoring” phase, wherein a person who possesses certain expertise may enter questions, potential answers, solutions, and Boolean logic rules (connecting the questions, potential answers, and solutions) in to the system. The second phase is a “generating” phase, wherein a plurality of pages is generated based on the expert’s input. The third phase is a “using” phase, wherein an end user in need of the expertise captured in the plurality of pages can navigate through the plurality of pages based on the rules entered by the expert by reading questions and selecting answers.

The second distinction of the prior art of record discussed was that the system of the present invention generates an executable not just a data file. For example, the system of the present invention may generate a plurality of HTML web pages with embedded JavaScript, thereby capturing the “expert system” in a portable format that can be executed by any standard web browser. Typical expert systems generate a “knowledge base,” which is a proprietary data file that cannot be executed.

Third, the rules generated by the system of the present invention are “complex.” Specifically, a rule in the system of the present invention can require responses from more than one previous question. In addition, a rule result can be another question or a solution. These rules are not just simple “vectors” or hyperlinks that take a single answer and move the user to a predetermined page.

In view of the amendments made herein and the foregoing reasons for reconsideration, it is submitted this Application is in condition for allowance and an action to this end is earnestly requested. If it would expedite the progress of this Application through examination process, the Examiner is authorized to call the undersigned attorney.

Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Serial No.: 09/678,428
Page 10

The Examiner and Commissioner are hereby authorized to charge any fees or additional fees associated with this Response or refund any overpayments associated with this Response to our deposit account, Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by Lynn A. Handrick on June 25, 2004.

